

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows.

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A solid-state imaging apparatus comprising:

a solid-state imaging element, having an energy ray sensitive portion;

a signal processing ~~circuit~~ circuits, processing signals output from said solid-state imaging element and including a load resistor electrically connected to an output terminal of the solid-state imaging element; and

a package, housing the solid-state imaging element and the signal processing circuit, wherein the load resistor and the output terminal of the solid-state imaging element are electrically connected via a bonding wire.

wherein the signal processing circuit is positioned at a planar portion of the package that differ from a planar portion at which the solid-state imaging element is positioned.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): A solid-state imaging apparatus comprising:

a solid-state imaging element, having an energy ray sensitive portion;

a signal processing circuit, processing signals output from the solid-state imaging element and including a load resistor electrically connected to an output terminal of the solid-state imaging element; and

a package, housing the solid-state imaging element and the signal processing circuit, wherein the package has a first planar portion and a second planar portion, formed to be stepped with respect to the first planar portion, and

wherein the load resistor and the output terminal of the solid-state imaging element are electrically connected via a bonding wire,

wherein the solid-state imaging element is positioned at the first planar portion, and the signal processing circuit load resistor is positioned at the second planar portion.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The solid-state imaging apparatus according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein ~~the signal processing circuit comprises~~ [[:]

~~a load resistor~~ [[,]] one end of ~~which~~ the load resistor is electrically connected to an output terminal of the solid-state imaging element and the other end of ~~which~~ the load resistor is grounded; and

wherein the signal processing circuit further includes a buffer amplifier, having a bipolar transistor that is electrically connected to the output terminal of the solid-state imaging element.

Claim 5 (New): The solid-state imaging apparatus according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the signal processing circuit further includes a field-effect transistor making up a source follower circuit with the load resistor.